

Message Text

SECRET

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71

ACTION ARA-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

NSC-10 NSCE-00 L-02 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01 RSR-01 /051 W

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R 072200 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9709

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T CARACAS 3870

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS - CANNOT BE DETERMINED

TAGS: PINR VE

SUBJECT: DIFFERING FACTIONS IN VENEZUELAN COMMUNIST PARTY

1. POLISH AMBASSADOR, DR. WITOLD JURASZ, INVITED ME FOR LUNCH TODAY. HE IS CASTING OUT AN ANCHOR TO WINDWARD IN CASE EVENTUALLY HE MIGHT NEED HELP AND THIS WILL BE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE COMMUNICATION.

2. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT VENEZUELAN COMMUNIST PARTY IS BREAKING APART. IN ADDITION TO TH PETKOFF FACTION, WHICH BROKE OFF FROM THE PARTY IN 1970 TO FORM THE MOVEMENT TOWARD SOCIALISM (MAS), THERE ARE THREE GROUPS: ONE LED BY GUILLERMO GARCIA PONCE WHOM THE AMBASSADOR DESCRIBED AS THE MOST INTELLIGENT LEADER OF A MINORITY ELEMENT; SECRETARY GENERAL JESUS FARIA WHO HEADS THE MAJORITY FACTION; AND EDUARDO MACHADO, THE CLASSICAL EX- CAPITALIST COMMUNIST WHO HE SAID IS NOW IN MOSCOW.

3. ACCORDING TO MY INFORMANT, THE FARIA FACTION OF THE COMMUNISTS WILL OPPOSE THE ADECOS AND COPEYANOS IN THE FORTH- COMING ELECTIONS BUT MIGHT SUPPORT JOSE VICENTE RANGEL AS LEFTIST CANDIDATE. GARCIA PONCE APPARENTLY WILL NOT SUPPORT ANY PARTICULAR CANDIDATE BUT-- SIGNIFICANTLY-- EDUARDO MACHADO WILL URGE VENEZUELAN COMMUNISTS TO VOTE FOR THE COPEYANOS ,

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WHO WILL ACCEPT COMMUNIST SUPPORT.
MCCLINTOCK

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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